KET NO.: MSFT-2761/302030.1

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Anush Kumar, et al.

Confirmation No.:

Application No.: 10/699,419

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: October 31, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: RULE ENGINE METHOD AND SYSTEM

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EV 325644265 US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: December 2, 2003

EV325644265US

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

 $\boxtimes$ In accordance with § 1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in § 1.491, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or

	before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of request for				
	continued examination under § 1.114, no additional fee is required.				
	In accordance with § 1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being				
	filed in connection with   the first or   second After Final Submission,				
	therefore:				
	Certif	fication in Accordance with § 1.97(e) is attached; or			
	The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is attached.				
	In accordance with § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being				
	filed after the period	set forth in § 1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of			
	either a Final Action	under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, or			
	before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, therefore:				
		Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e) is attached;			
		or			
		The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is attached.			
	In accordance with § 1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being				
	filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under § 1.113 or a Notice				
	of Allowance under § 1.311 but before, or simultaneously with, the payment				
	of the Issue Fee, therefore included are: Certification in Accordance with §				
	1.97(e); and the submission fee of <u>\$180.00</u> as set forth in § 1.17(p).				

PATENT

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-2761/302030.1 - 3 -

$\boxtimes$	Copie	Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are				
	enclos	enclosed herewith.				
	Copie	Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed				
	herew	rith				
	Copie	s of references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are not required to				
	be su	e submitted pursuant to the June 30, 2003 recent revisions to 37 CFR §				
	1.98(a	1.98(a)(2)(i).				
	EXCI	CEPT THAT:				
		In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate],				
		and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner,				
		copies are not enclosed herewith.				
		In accordance with § 1.98(d), copies of the following references listed				
		on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed herewith because				
		they were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and				
		Trademark Office in patent application(s) for which a claim for priority				
		under 35 U.S.C.§ 120 have been made in the instant application:				
		Copies of references [list as appropriate] listed on the				
		attached Form PTO-1449 were previously cited by or submitted				
		to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior Application No.				
		, filed .				

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3050. This form is submitted in duplicate.

There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

Date: December 2, 2003

Jerome G. Schaefer Registration No. 50,800

WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP One Liberty Place - 46th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103 Telephone: (215) 568-3100

Facsimile: (215) 568-3439

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Form PTO-1449 Modified			Docket No. MSFT-2761/302030.1	Application No. <b>10/699,419</b>			
List of Patent and Publications Cited by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)			Applicant Anush Kumar, et al.				
		ent of Commerce Trademark Office	Filing Date October 31, 2003	Group Not Yet Assigned			
<b>O</b> 7	THEF	R DOCUMENTS (Incl	uding Author, Title, Date,	Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
	1		ligations", Third ACM SIGP	approach for Business Process PLAN Workshop on Rule-Based			
	2						
	3						
	4		Business-to-Business Interactions: Issues and Enabling LDB Journal-The International Journal on Very Large Data 9-85				
	5						
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